



## **ISSUES/DESCRIPTIONS REPORT**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2008**

**WSBK-TV Boston**

**WSBK-TV/TV38 – Boston, MA**  
**Quarterly Issues/Program List**  
**CBS Corporation**

**September 30, 2008**

Attached are listings of broadcasts or broadcast segments, which, in the station's judgment, reflect the station's most significant programming treatment of ascertained community issues during the preceding three-month period.

**PROGRAM INDEX**

**WBZ-TV News on TV38** – WBZ-TV News on TV38 is the market's only broadcast newscast available at 9:00 p.m. Anchored by Kate Merrill, the newscast delivers a contemporary half-hour of news filled with comprehensive coverage of local politics, community events, medical updates, and issues of importance to the community.

Airs: Monday-Friday at 9:00 p.m.

Duration: 30 minutes

## **TV38 NEWS**

### **Business & Political**

07/17/08 A report on the Big Dig in Boston and that the project will not be paid off until 30 years from now: costing approximately \$22 billion by the year 2038. Also a report on crude oil dropping to less than \$130 dollars a barrel.

07/21/08 President Bush hosted many Olympians at the White House for a dinner and send off before the Beijing games. Also Barack Obama on the campaign trail in the Middle East and Hillary Clinton makes a stop in Boston.

07/23/08 In memory of the late Tim Russert, the City of Buffalo has named a street after him. Also Barack Obama still on the campaign trail in the Middle East in an effort help boost his foreign policy relationships with foreign leaders.

07/28/08 MEFA (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority) has announced that it does not have funding for private loans. About 80% of loans in the state are private ones. Also a report on the rising cost of gas.

07/31/08 Governor Deval Patrick has signed a bill into law allowing same sex couples to get married in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

08/07/08 Beijing getting ready for the Olympic Games. China has beefed up security. President Bush scheduled to attend the games. Also Barack Obama responds to the McCain/Paris Hilton campaign video.

08/11/08 A report in Europe and the conflict between Russia and Georgia. Russian troops have seized a military base in Georgia.

08/14/08 A report on Julia Child being a spy during WWII. Documents being released show that Child worked for the OSS (Office of Strategic Services) during WWII.

08/21/08 Threatening letters were sent to John McCain's presidential campaign headquarters in Colorado and Manchester, NH. Letters contained a white powder. Hazardous teams were called in but the letters were a hoax.

08/25/08 Coverage from the Democratic National Convention in Denver, CO. Michelle Obama to address the audience and Senator Ted Kennedy to appear on stage at the convention.

08/27/08 More coverage from the Democratic National Convention in Denver, CO. Hillary Clinton giving up delegates to officially nominate Barack Obama. Former President Bill Clinton to address the convention floor.

08/28/08 Barack Obama officially accepts the Democratic Party nomination and addresses the convention in Denver. John McCain chooses his running mate but still unclear as to who it is.

08/29/08 John McCain has announced that Sarah Palin is his running mate in the election. Palin is currently the Governor of Alaska.

09/02/08 John McCain's campaign is getting a big boost from his announcement of Sarah Palin as his running mate. Also the White House is now defending the government's takeover of mortgage giants Freddie Mac and Fanny Mae. President Bush says he is happy with the takeover as it will help the financial markets.

09/05/08 With both conventions over and only 60 days left in the Presidential race both candidates, Obama and McCain are getting their messages out via their ad campaigns. Both are pushing heavy for change.

09/09/08 Obama and McCain both in Ohio campaigning and polls show that they are in a dead heat with each other. Also John Kerry faces an opponent, in Ed O'Reilly, for the first time since becoming US Senator for Massachusetts.

09/11/08 Obama and McCain have both halted their campaigns on the ground and on the airwaves due to the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

09/15/08 Wall Street took a major hit today due to the collapse of Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers Bank. Markets fell substantially. Also Obama has a new ad campaign out there trying to sway some undecided voters.

09/18/08 Market Crisis: Administration in Washington, D.C. are considering a plan that would take tax dollars and buy bad assets. Stocks surged today.

09/22/08 Stock prices dropped dramatically. Dow Jones went down 300 points and oil spiked \$16. The Senate has come up with modifications to the \$700 billion dollar bailout plan that the House will vote on next week.

09/25/08 President Bush had a historic meeting today with his administration to discuss the \$700 billion dollar bailout plan. Presidential candidates McCain and Obama also joined at the White House.

09/29/08 Dow Jones dropped 700 points, which is the worst loss in its history. Bailout vote did not pass in the House.

09/30/08 A bill is being put on the House/Senate floor to up the FDIC insurance cap on bank accounts from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Senate to vote on the \$700 billion dollar bailout plan.

## **Health & Medical**

07/17/08 A report on the salmonella scare in tomatoes. The FDA now says that tomatoes are safe to eat. Local farmers are pleased as their crop is salvageable.

07/21/08 A report on a salmonella scare in fresh jalapeño peppers. The FDA has issued a warning on jalapeño peppers that are Mexican grown at a Texas plant.

07/23/08 A report on cell phones and cancer. Can cell phone use give you cancer? The University of Pittsburgh has given a warning to its staff that says they should limit cell phone use. The research in this debate could take a long time to show if there is any cause of cancer in cell phone use so they are warning staff to be proactive now.

08/05/08 Researchers are investigating 6 e coli cases in the state and whether they are linked to bad beef.

08/11/08 A report on running and exercise; a study done by the University of Stanford says that elderly people who run are less likely to have heart problems and breathing problems. Also a report on an increased threat of the West Nile Virus due to heavy rains; more mosquitoes are coming to the area. Also a report the town of Pembroke has a boil water order as e coli was found in the town's water.

08/14/08 A report on bringing your baby to the office. Many mothers are bringing their new babies to work to ease back in to things. The philosophy is to help parents and help business retain their employees. Some say it's a distraction but some say it increases productivity.

08/18/08 The Department of Health has found cases of Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) in Carver, MA for the first time. Also cases of West Nile Virus were found in some crows across the state.

08/21/08 A report on mushroom concerns. The Poison Control Center has been taking more calls than ever before on mushrooms. The report stated that you shouldn't touch or eat mushrooms because some are poisonous and some are healthy, but it is unclear upon first look.

09/02/08 A look at sleep and an ancient exercise. Research has shown that older adults that practice Thai-chi sleep better. Thai-chi's flowing movements help to relieve stress and relax the body to help sleep more soundly.

09/16/08 A report on a potentially harmful chemical in plastics. Researchers have found that some plastics contain Bisphenol A (BPA), which can cause health problems. Some problems include, depending on the level of BPA, heart disease and diabetes.

09/22/08 A report on the Chinese practice of acupuncture and how it can help ease the side effects of breast cancer treatment.

09/25/08 A report on the asthma drug Singulair and its effects on children. In some cases the drug's side effects have caused anger, depression, and suicidal thoughts in children.

### **Law/Safety & Security**

07/17/08 A report on a State Police training exercise. Prosecutors in the NE area came to Ayer, MA and watched as State police intentionally crashed two cars and then began their investigation. The exercise was to show prosecutors that there may be more to an investigation that they can use in court when arguing their case to the jury.

07/23/08 A report on gender neutral pronouns. Many Massachusetts laws are written with masculine pronouns when 52% of the population in the state are women. Now a bill is being proposed to change that and use he/she pronouns instead.

07/28/08 A report on Clark Rockefeller case. Clark Rockefeller allegedly kidnapped his own daughter. Investigators have been following leads and now are track leads to New York.

07/31/08 An update on the Clark Rockefeller case. The young girl's mother has issued a plea for her safe return. The video has been posted on youtube.

08/05/08 An update on the Clark Rockefeller case. Also 11 people have been indicted in the biggest credit card scam in US history. 40 million credit/debt cards were stolen from 9 major retailers.

08/07/08 A report on the Middlesex County Register of Probate. He has been caught on tape stealing public money from copy machines in the area. He has been placed on administrative leave.

08/14/08 A New Hampshire officer was killed while coming home from work by a hit and run driver. The officer lived in the town of Hillsboro, NH.

08/18/08 A Cape Cod town remembers two fallen soldiers who were killed in Iraq. 19 year old Marine of Mashpee and a 21 year old Army Private also of Mashpee were both killed overseas.

08/21/08 A Boston firefighter is not being reinstated and has lost his pension. This is all because the firefighter was on disability saying he was too sick to work but competed in a body-building competition.

08/27/08 Online dating scare. A Hampton Falls, NH man allegedly met a woman on Match.com and invited her to his home. He then allegedly gave her a strange liquid which made her unable to stand. He then allegedly raped her and now in court facing charges.

08/29/08 The City of Boston has approved a taxi fare hike. This will help to cover the rising cost of fuel prices in the state.

09/02/08 A report that no US troops will return from Iraq in 2008. President Bush has scheduled about 8,000 troops to be pulled from Iraq by February 2009.

09/05/08 A state worker is being suspended for selling scrap metal to pay for a party. The metal was taken from a warehouse in Stoneham, MA and was taken off the Longfellow Bridge in Boston.

09/09/08 A debate on whether or not the driving age in Massachusetts should be raised from 16 to 18. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety wants to increase the age to 18 in order to decrease accidents.

09/11/08 The helmet law in Holliston, MA is reviewed after a young bicyclist dies in a scooter accident. Children under 16 are required to wear helmets. Police want to strictly enforce this law and even want to go as far as confiscating the bikes of children who are not wearing helmets.

09/15/08 Governor Deval Patrick wants to hire civilian flaggers in the state instead of hiring police details at small work sites. This is all in an effort to save the state millions of dollars. The police departments are arguing against this and think it is a safety concern.

09/18/08 Governor Deval Patrick has announced he is making budget cuts. This includes laying off Mass Turnpike toll takers. Also a report on a new study that states people who read or text message when they are driving lower their reaction time by 35%.

09/22/08 Governor Patrick's plan to hire civilian flaggers instead of police details at small work sites pushes forward and loopholes have been closed up.

09/25/08 The first Presidential debate is scheduled for 9/26. McCain has stated though that he will not attend the debate if the financial crisis was not taken care of. Obama states that he will be at the debate.

09/29/08 Three Massachusetts Representatives have voted "nay" to the proposed \$700 billion dollar bailout bill. 40% of democrats voted against their leadership on this bill.

09/30/08 An update on the Big Dig tunnel collapse that killed a young woman in 2006: A settlement was reached and the family will receive \$28 million from about 15 companies involved.

### **Community/Culture**

07/21/08 Carl Yastrzemski's Genesis Fund event took place at Fenway Park. Families came out to Fenway to support the Genesis Fund in raising money for children with birth defects.

07/31/08 In West Roxbury the Parkway National All-Star little league team got a huge send off as they travel to Bristol, CT to compete in the Eastern Regional tournament – one step before the Little League World Series.

08/11/08 Massachusetts Maritime Academy is renaming its training ship “TS Enterprise” to “The Kennedy” in honor of the entire Kennedy family.

08/14/08 A 22 year old woman is making money to pay for Harvard by working at Fenway Park and using her head to sell. The woman balances her goods on her head and walks up and down the isles of Fenway selling. She says the fans love it and it leaves her two hands to make change. Also a report on vandalism at a brand new, handicap accessible park in New Bedford.

08/18/08 The Asian Long Beetle is a threat to trees in the Worcester, MA area. The beetles infest trees and are causing damage to the lumber and syrup making in the area.

08/21/08 A 10 year old Stoughton boy confined to a wheelchair needs help. He has a genetic muscle disorder and to get around needs a special mini van, which is broken down. The family doesn’t know what to do, but with the help of local business people and donations they are almost at their goal to getting a new mini-van.

08/25/08 Trees in the Worcester, MA area are being cut down due to the Asian Long Beetle infestation. Also a report on a man from Salisbury, MA who returns to Salisbury Beach to meet the people who saved his life after suffering a massive heart attack.

08/27/08 Many public schools are now making the school day longer and becoming extended day schools. Some schools are keeping children in classes from 8-9 hours a day. The idea is to give teachers more time to teach.

08/28/08 Today marks the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech. Also, Gloucester High School kids are pitching in to clean up their athletic fields in conjunction with Gloucester Fisherman Athletic Association.

08/29/08 Mayor Tom Menino unveiled the new Dennis Street Park in Roxbury that is handicapped accessible as well. Also two firefighters were remembered in West Roxbury for their bravery after they were killed in a tragic fire. A memorial service was held for them and plaques were presented to the families.

09/05/08 The mother of a Lynn, MA boy, who has been missing for 3 weeks, meets a complete stranger who is working help find her son. A 16 year old boy has put the little boy’s face on a billboard in Lynn with a message. Also Patriots player Benjamin Watson gave out coolers filled with food to families in need as part of his One More Foundation.

09/09/08 The City of Worcester has a hefty \$100 million bill to pay due to the infestation of the Long Horn Beetle in the city’s trees. The US Department of Agriculture wants the city to pay ½ of the bill but the city is contesting that because they do not feel responsible for the infestation.

09/11/08 The 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 was remembered around the country today and around Massachusetts as well. A new memorial was unveiled today at Logan airport to



remember those lost on the two hijacked planes that left from Logan. Also in Framingham another memorial at Cushing Park was unveiled. 17 victims of the 9/11 attacks were from Framingham.

09/18/08 The Queen Elizabeth II has sailed out of S. Boston for the last time. It's the final voyage for the majestic cruise ship. It will be placed as a floating hotel in the country of Dubai.

09/22/08 John Adams' home in Quincy is becoming quite the tourist stop; this after a mini series produced by Tom Hanks was released.

09/29/08 A local artist from Newburyport and huge Red Sox fan continues painting a collection of Red Sox scenes. He has been painting outside of Fenway Park since 1981.

09/30/08 Shannon Allen, wife of Boston Celtic Ray Allen is joining thousands at the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation's annual walk on the Esplanade.

#### Senate Debate

09/5/08 WBZ-TV hosted a senate debate where Democratic candidates for Massachusetts U.S. Senate, Sen. John F. Kerry and Edward O'Reilly faced off. WBZ-TV Political Analyst, Jon Keller, moderated the debate. The debate aired on Sunday, September 7 at 10:30am on TV38 (WSBK-TV).

**This Quarterly Issues/Program List was placed in the Public File on October 6, 2008 by:**

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